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LETTER DATED 20 SEPTEMBER 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF BELGIUM, FRANCE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We have the honour to bring to your attention the text of the declaration on Yugoslavia adopted by the European Community and its member States at their ministerial meeting held at Brussels on 19 September 1991.

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Paul NOTERDAEME
Permanent Representative of Belgium
to the United Nations

(Signed) Jean-Bernard P. H. P. MERIMEE
Permanent Representative of France
to the United Nations

(Signed) David HANNAY
Permanent Representative of the
United Kingdom to the United Nations

Annex

1. The European Community and its member States remain committed to a successful outcome of the Conference on Yugoslavia. They call on all Yugoslav parties to share this commitment with them. They acknowledge Lord Carrington's invaluable contribution both in chairing the Conference and in bringing about a new cease-fire agreement.

2. The Community and its member States have long recognized that a new situation exists in Yugoslavia. They consider it self-evident that this calls for new relationships and structures. They reiterate that it is entirely up to all people living in Yugoslavia to determine their own future. The Community and its member States will accept any outcome that is the result of negotiations conducted in good faith.

It is the fervent hope of the Community and its member States that any negotiated settlement will be of a comprehensive nature and will contribute to the security and prosperity of all peoples of the Balkans and of Europe as a whole.

3. The Community and its member States wish to reiterate once again the basic principles they have subscribed to from the very beginning:

- The unacceptability of the use of force;

- The unacceptability of any change of borders by force which they are determined not to recognize;

- Respect for the rights of all who live in Yugoslavia, including minorities;

- The need to take account of all legitimate concerns and aspirations.

4. The Community and its member States welcome the cease-fire agreement concluded at Igalo in the presence of Lord Carrington on 17 September 1991. They have taken note, however, of the joint statement by Lord Carrington and the Presidents of Croatia and Serbia and the Minister of National Defence to the effect that the Igalo agreement constituted the last chance for a de-escalation and a cessation of actual warfare, without which there could be no meaningful negotiation on the future of the peoples concerned.

5. The Community and its member States call on all parties concerned to refrain from any political or military action which might undermine the Conference on Yugoslavia. The continuing violence in particular puts the continuation of the Conference at risk.

6. The Community and its member States regret that the EC monitor mission is no longer able to perform its task in full. They therefore welcome that the WEU explores ways in which the activities of the monitors could be supported

so as to make their work a more effective contribution to the peace-keeping effort. It is their understanding that no military intervention is contemplated and that, before a reinforced monitor mission were established, a cease-fire would have to be agreed with a prospect of holding and that all Yugoslav parties would have expressed their agreement.

7. The Community and its member States would wish to have the opportunity to examine and endorse the conclusions of the study. They also intend to seek the support of the nations of the CSCE and, through the United Nations Security Council, the international community as a whole.